DC UNIVERSE

24

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DC FANDOME

A GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

08.22.2020

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Story by TOM TAYLOR • Art by DARICK ROBERTSON

When a nation is steeped in terror...
will John Constantine lift a finger?

If so, which finger?

HELLBLAZER

RISE and FALL

DC BLACK LABEL
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September

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TO THINK I CHOSE THIS OVER A SUN-DRENCHED BEACH AND UNLIMITED MARGARITAS.

SHLK

GAAAH!

YOU DON'T *LOOK* LIKE ONE OF SNOWFLAME'S USUAL GOONS. WHY DID HE SEND YOU INSTEAD OF HIS DRUG CARTEL?

I'M NOT...*WITH* SNOWFLAME! I WAS...TRYING TO HELP YOU... AGAIN!

SO I *DIDN'T* SEE YOU GET INTO HIS TACKY RED CAR AT THE AIRPORT? DON'T TRY TO DENY IT-- I *KNOW* IT WAS YOU.

YES, I WENT *WITH* HIM...BUT I'M NOT...LOOK, YOU HAVE TO *TRUST* ME!

SPEND ENOUGH TIME ON ISLA NEVADA AND YOU LEARN THE ONLY RULE THAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE: DON'T TRUST *ANYONE.*

I REALLY DIDN'T WANT IT TO COME TO THIS, KID...

...BUT AFTER I WHIP YOUR PET... JAGUAR...I'M GONNA--

GRR.

POW

KRAK

THE PRICE TO PAY

BLAKE NORTHCOTT & SEAN MURPHY STORY
BLAKE NORTHCOTT SCRIPT CIAN TORMEY ART
FCO PLASCENCIA COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
SEAN MURPHY & MATT HOLLINGSWORTH COVER
JUNGGEUN YOON VARIANT COVER
BEN MEARES ASSISTANT EDITOR JESSICA CHEN EDITOR
BEN ABERNATHY GROUP EDITOR

MY SPEAR WAS TIPPED WITH A *PARALYTIC.* YOU'VE ONLY GOT A FEW MINUTES OF CONSCIOUSNESS LEFT, SO USE THEM *WISELY.*

IF I WERE YOU, I'D GET VERY HONEST, VERY FAST...AND REMEMBER, *I'M* NOT THE ONE YOU HAVE TO CONVINCE.

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

TO STEAL A DIAMOND!

THIS IS ABOUT *MONEY?*

I SAW YOU GET OFF THE PLANE--YOU LOOK LIKE YOU HAVE *PLENTY* OF IT. WHY RISK COMING HERE?

IN MY WORLD, EVERYONE IS THE *BEST* AT SOMETHING: THE FASTEST, THE STRONGEST, THE GREATEST DETECTIVE...

STEALING DIAMONDS, IS... IT'S WHAT I KNOW. IT'S WHO I *AM.*

THAT'S SAD.

HONEST, BUT SAD.

D-DOES THAT MEAN YOU BELIEVE ME?

I'M UNDECIDED. BUT *KISIN* SEEMS TO.

IF SHE DIDN'T, YOU'D NO LONGER HAVE A FACE...OR MUCH OF ANYTHING ELSE.

HERE, INHALE THIS.

WHY DOES EVERYONE KEEP OFFERING ME DRUGS? DO I LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO GET HIGH AND PARTY?

HONESTLY? YES, A LITTLE.

IT'S NOT A PARTY DRUG, THOUGH--IT'S AN *ANTIDOTE.*

WE USE IT WHEN ONE OF THE VILLAGERS ACCIDENTALLY GETS A WHIFF OF SNOWFLAME'S PRODUCT. IT'LL REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING.

HOW DID YOU GET ACCESS TO ALL THESE SUBSTANCES?

THE LAB IN MY VILLAGE. I JUST PICK THE LEAVES-- THEY DO THE CHEMISTRY.

FOLLOW US. IT'S NOT SAFE OUT HERE, AND YOU NEED TO GET STITCHED UP.

CORREAS VILLAGE, ISLA NEVADA.
THE NEXT MORNING.

"HOW ARE YOU FEELING?"

LIKE I GOT SPEARED, DRUGGED, AND FOUGHT A GIANT MYTHICAL PANTHER, THANKS FOR ASKING.

SURVIVING KISIN, THAT'S ONE THING--SHE SEES INSIDE YOU, INTO YOUR ***SOUL.*** IF YOU WALKED AWAY, THEN YOU PASSED HER TEST.

SURVIVING ***ANGELICA,*** THOUGH? WELL...THAT'S A DIFFERENT CHALLENGE ALTOGETHER.

I'M SELINA.

LISETH.

I KNOW YOU WERE TRYING TO HELP MY DAUGHTER LAST NIGHT--BUT WHY COME ALL THE WAY FROM GOTHAM?

AND WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THE JUNGLE SO FAR FROM THE CASTLE?

I KEEP ASKING MYSELF THOSE SAME QUESTIONS.

THE NEWS PAINTED A GRIM PICTURE OF ISLA NEVADA, BUT BEING HERE--SEEING WITH MY OWN EYES WHAT SNOWFLAME HAS DONE, IT...IT JUST...

MAKES IT MORE REAL.

"WE WERE NEVER A RICH NATION, BUT WE HAD WHAT WE NEEDED.

"WHEN SNOWFLAME ARRIVED, HE PROMISED ***PROSPERITY***--THE RESOURCES TO BUILD SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS, AND TO REPAIR OUR HOMES--BUT ***PEACE*** NEEDED TO COME FIRST.

"HE DISARMED US IN THE NAME OF SECURITY. ONCE WE WERE DEFENSELESS, HE TOOK OVER THE LOCAL POLICE AND MILITIA GROUPS.

"NOW WE WORK FOR SLAVE WAGES, CONSTANTLY IN FEAR FOR OUR LIVES...AND SNOWFLAME LIVES IN A CASTLE WITH AN ARMY AT HIS BACK.

ON THE ISLAND, WE BELIEVE EVERYTHING HAPPENS FOR A ***REASON***...WE PRAYED FOR HELP, AND THE GOD OF DEATH APPEARED--THAT WAS NO COINCIDENCE.

SHE'S POWERFUL, BUT...SHE BLEEDS. EVEN ***SHE*** CAN'T WIN THIS WAR ALONE.

I DON'T THINK YOUR ARRIVAL WAS COINCIDENCE, EITHER, SELINA.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH SAGE YOU BURNED OR HOW MANY CRYSTALS YOU RUBBED...

...BUT TRUST ME, ***NONE*** OF IT SUMMONED ***ME*** TO THIS ISLAND.

I *HATE* WHAT SNOWFLAME HAS DONE, BUT I'M JUST A DIAMOND THIEF-- I DON'T HAVE THE SKILLS TO TAKE OUT AN *ENTIRE* DRUG CARTEL.

NOBODY IS JUST *ONE* THING. I'M A MOTHER, A FARMER, A CHEMIST, A SEAMSTRESS, AND--

--WHEN NEED BE--A *WARRIOR.*

WE'RE ALL A WORK IN PROGRESS.

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT RISING TO A CHALLENGE. SOMETIMES WE HAVE TO TAKE ON CHALLENGES WE NEVER ASKED FOR.

I *KNOW* STEFAN...HE'S GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT I DID TO HIS MEN, AND HE'LL COME AFTER ME.

YOU'RE *ALL* IN DANGER. I SHOULD LEAVE.

YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR PENTHOUSE APARTMENT, BUT *WE* DON'T HAVE THAT LUXURY.

WHEN SNOWFLAME MAKES AN EXAMPLE OUT OF SOMEONE, THEY'RE LUCKY IF THEIR HOME IS THE *ONLY* THING THEY LOSE.

AS SOON AS HIS PARTY IS OVER, HE'LL COME AFTER US.

AS LONG AS SNOWFLAME IS DISTRACTED AND DEALING WITH THE AUCTION, WE STILL HAVE TIME.

WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN, WE HAVE A *PARTY TO CRASH.*

GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE...*SOLD*, TO THE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG LADY IN THE FRONT ROW WITH THE *ADORABLE* LITTLE POOCH!

WHACK

YOU DON'T LOOK HAPPY, BABY--WHY YOU TRIPPIN'? I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALL ABOUT THE ICE?

I'M HAPPY I *WON* THE DIAMOND, BUT *SELINA'S* NOT HERE TO SEE IT.

SO WHAT?

SO, STEFAN, I WANTED TO SHOW HER THAT *I* WON, AND *SHE* LOST--

--TO RUB IT IN HER SMUG, SOON-TO-BE-BOTOXED FACE!

PAFF

ARMAND, WHAT IN THE BLUE HELL HAPPENED TO MY *LIGHTS?!*

LOOKS LIKE A POWER FAILURE, BOSS!

YES, I CAN *SEE* THAT-- I NEED TO KNOW *WHY* THE POWER WENT OUT!

GET ON YOUR RADIO AND FIND OUT WHERE HUGHES AND CAMPBELL ARE-- THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GUARDING THE GENERATOR!

UH, BOSS...LITTLE PROBLEM...

...I...I FOUND HUGHES AND CAMPBELL.

OR WHAT WAS *LEFT* OF THEM.

SANCHEZ, *BEHIND YOU!*

HOLY @#$%! EVERYBODY ***RUN!***

DON'T BOUNCE YET, GUYS! *COME BACK!*

SQUEEE!

WE HAVE SOME GNARLY ITEMS UP FOR GRABS!

FORGET YOU, SNOWFLAME!

I DIDN'T SWIM ALL THE WAY HERE FOR THIS!

COME ON, THE *CODPIECE CANNON* IS STILL AVAILABLE!

ROSS, SEAL THE GATES--AND FIND OUT WHO'S GUARDING MY OFFICE!

N-NO ONE IS GUARDING YOUR OFFICE, BOSS. IT WAS LOCKED UP...

...BEFORE THE POWER DIED, AND THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SEAL WENT OUT.

...DAMMIT, SELINA.

SEND A CREW UP THERE *NOW!* I'LL TRY AND TALK SOME SENSE INTO CATWOMAN.

I CAN SEE THIS IS A BAD TIME...IS IT ALL RIGHT IF SOMEONE GRABS MY DIAMOND AND BOXES IT UP FOR ME? I'M GONNA CATCH THE FIRST PRIVATE JET BACK TO THE MAINLAND.

WHAT IS SHE DOING TO ME?! STORMING *MY* COMPOUND, KILLING *MY* MEN?!

BEEE-DEEP... BEEE-DEEP...

STEFAN calling...

BEE

ONE LIST, HUNDREDS OF NAMES. THE WORST OF THE WORST... THEIR ALIASES, KNOWN ASSOCIATES, LAST KNOWN LOCATIONS-- IT'S ALL HERE.

Declined

BIP

CLACK CLACK CLACK CLACK

HEY, THERE SHE IS!

DROP HER!

BZZT

BRRRAP

BRRRAP

WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* SHE ESCAPED?! SHE'S A *WOMAN* WITH A WHIP AND A CATSUIT--YOU HAVE *MACHINE GUNS!*

SHE'S *FAST,* BOSS! AND I HAVE MORE BAD NEWS...

...YOUR *COMPUTER* GOT CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE.

DAWN

DAMN IT, SHE HAS MY *LIST*--I KNOW IT!

WE'RE RUNNING ON BACKUP POWER, AND SOON ALL MY EMERGENCY LIGHTING *AND* MY LASER GRID WILL GO DOWN.

?

FW-THWIP

FIND OUT WHERE THAT PANTHER DISAPPEARED TO AND PUT A *BULLET* THROUGH IT--*I'LL* HANDLE CATWOMAN!

A WOMAN WITH A WHIP IS KICKING AN ENTIRE SECURITY TEAM'S ASS...

FW-THWIP

...DISARMING HER CAN'T BE *THAT* HARD!

DISARMING IS HARDER THAN IT ***LOOKS***, STEFAN--IT'S ALL IN THE WRIST.

YOU COME INTO ***MY*** HOUSE, DESTROY ***MY*** BUSINESS...YOU'VE CROSSED THE LINE, SELINA.

YOU'RE FORCING MY HAND.

THIS IS GOING TO HURT YOU A ***LOT*** MORE THAN IT HURTS ME.

YOU KNOW ME, BABY-- I DON'T EVEN NEED A ***SAFE WORD.***

WHOOSH

YOU MIGHT WANNA STAND BACK A LITTLE, BECAUSE...

SSSNIKT

...YOU'RE ABOUT TO FEEL THE HEAT OF SNOW FLAME!

TRY NOT TO ENJOY THIS TOO MUCH.

I HOPE THIS ISN'T ALL YOU'VE GOT, BECAUSE THESE CHEESY OLD TRICKS *AREN'T* GOING TO CUT IT.

TSSSS

YOU'RE LOOKING A LITTLE *SLUGGISH*, BABY. I THINK YOU'VE LOST A STEP.

I...I FEEL LIGHT-HEADED...

HERE, LET ME GET CLOSER AND GIVE YOU A LITTLE *PICK-ME-UP.*

WHU

WHAT IS... J-JUST BEING *NEAR* YOU... I'M... FEELING...

EUPHORIC? I TEND TO HAVE THAT EFFECT ON THE LADIES.

IT'S NOT FOR ME.

THIS IS *ADORABLE.* YOU'RE GONNA SNIFF THAT NASTY GREEN DUST THE JUNGLE RATS COOKED UP TO COME DOWN OFF YOUR HIGH?

NICE TRY WITH THE *ANTIDOTE.* KILLING MY BUZZ DOESN'T DRAIN MY POWER. I CAN STILL DISH IT OUT, AND I CAN STILL TAKE A--

KRAKK

DO YOU *EVER* SHUT THE #$%& UP?

MY *NOSE!*

I WAS TAKING IT EASY ON YOU, BUT NOW I'M GOING TO *CRUSH* YOUR--

GHAAAAH!

SHKT

HOW DID...WHAT WAS THAT SPEAR *COATED* WITH?!

JUST SOMETHING US "JUNGLE RATS" COOKED UP IN THE LABS YOU FORCE US TO WORK IN.

D-DON'T KILL ME, SELINA...THIS ISN'T *YOU!*

YOU DON'T KNOW *ANYTHING* ABOUT ME, STEFAN. BUT I KNOW *YOU.*

YOU'VE *DESTROYED* LIVES. *ENSLAVED* PEOPLE. AND AS MUCH AS I'D ENJOY RIPPING YOU TO PIECES...

...I'M *NOT* GOING TO.

I WOULD NEVER KILL A DEFENSELESS PERSON.

BUT THEN AGAIN...I'M NOT YOUR WHITE KNIGHT, EITHER.

YOU CAN SAVE YOURSELF.

WAIT... COME BACK, BABY! I CAN CHANGE!

GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE!

DON'T LEAVE ME HERE WITH--

TWO DAYS LATER.
UPPER EAST SIDE, MANHATTAN.

THANK YOU FOR COMING SO FAST--I COULDN'T WAIT!

ABSOLUTELY, MS. QUARTZ. IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, BUT I'M SHORT ON TIME.

CAN YOU SHOW ME TO THE PIECE?

HELLS YEAH, FOLLOW ME!

FASCINATING. I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING QUITE LIKE IT...YOU PAID *HOW* MUCH FOR THIS, EXACTLY?

A *LOT.* SKIP THE BUILDUP AND TELL ME THE VALUE, JEEVES!

FOUR HUNDRED.

MILLION?

NO, DON'T BE DAFT. FOUR HUNDRED *DOLLARS.* IT'S A CUBIC ZIRCONIA.

IMPOSSIBLE! I CHECKED IT MYSELF BEFORE LEAVING ISLA NEVADA...

IT WOULD'VE BEEN WORTH MORE SIMPLY DUE TO ITS SIZE, BUT SOMEONE HAS *DAMAGED* THIS ONE.

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S BEEN LASER ENGRAVED.

HOPE THIS MAKES FOR A GOOD VLOG, TORKELSON. CHEERIO!

SNOWFLAME IS GONE--BUT WITHOUT KISIN AND THE CATWOMAN, I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'LL DEFEND OURSELVES.

WE ASKED FOR HELP, AND THEY ANSWERED OUR CALL. NEITHER OF THEM COULD STAY HERE FOREVER.

"I SUPPOSE WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP REBUILDING.

"WE DON'T HAVE MANY RESOURCES, BUT WE HAVE EACH OTHER.

"THAT WILL HAVE TO BE ENOUGH."

MOM... I THINK YOU SHOULD COME SEE THIS!

Angelica,
This doesn't go with my penthouse decor.
Maybe you can put it to better use?
-S

GOTHAM.

THE LIST IS WORTH A FORTUNE ON THE BLACK MARKET, AND I WOULDN'T HAVE A HARD TIME SOURCING A BUYER.

BUT AS IT TURNS OUT, ANGELICA WAS RIGHT. THIS ISN'T ABOUT MONEY. MAYBE IT NEVER WAS.

THE CURIOSITY IS KILLING ME... BUT KNOWING IF MY NAME IS ON THIS LIST WON'T CHANGE WHAT THE NEWSPAPERS SAY...

...OR WHAT HE THINKS OF ME.

AND IT WON'T STOP CONSPIRACY THEORISTS FROM DOING THEIR DAMAGE.

WAYNE FOUNDATION
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DELETE

THE TAMBRA QUARTZES OF THE WORLD WILL ALWAYS BE THERE, READY TO TEAR OTHERS DOWN WITH THEIR WORDS.

BUT THIS IS **HIS** DATABASE, **HIS** OPINIONS...IT'S LIKE PEEKING INTO HIS MIND.

IF MY NAME COMES UP, WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT ME? DOES IT EVEN MATTER?

OPENING THIS FILE COULD POUR SALT IN A WOUND I'VE SPENT FAR TOO LONG MENDING.

AL DIRECTORY

BESIDES, NOTHING IN HERE WILL CHANGE WHO I AM.

IF HE THINKS I CAN BE DEFINED BY A LIST...

KYLE, SELINA

SEARCH

GCPD DATABASE

ARKHAM DATABASE

...MAYBE HE'S **NOT** THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE.

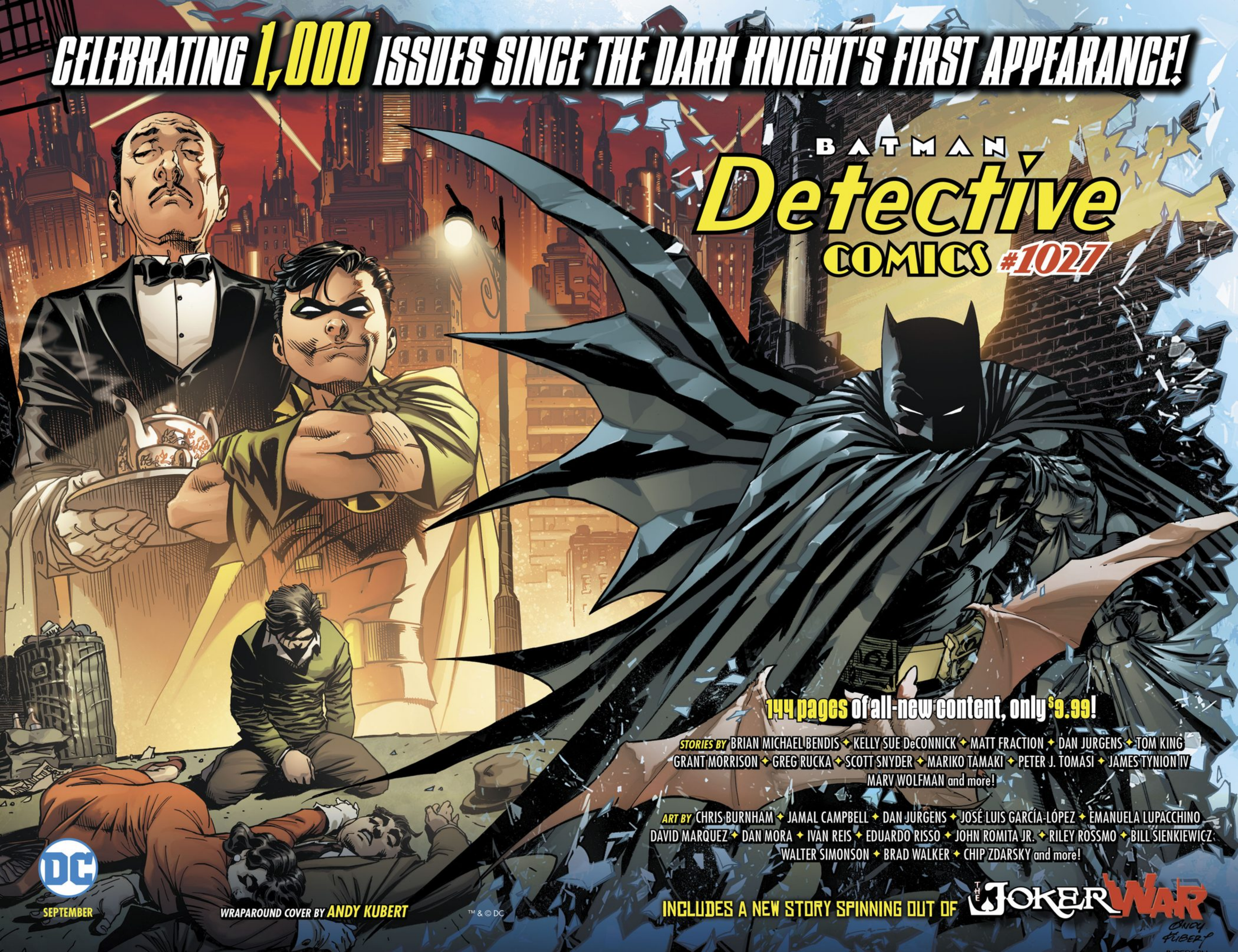
DEPENDING ON WHO YOU ASK, I'M A VILLAIN OR A HERO. A SINNER OR A SAINT.

BUT THE TRUTH IS, I'M STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO I AM BENEATH THIS MASK.

I'M A WORK IN PROGRESS.

NEXT: CATWOMAN GETS DRAFTED INTO THE JOKER WAR!

CELEBRATING 1,000 ISSUES SINCE THE DARK KNIGHT'S FIRST APPEARANCE!



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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

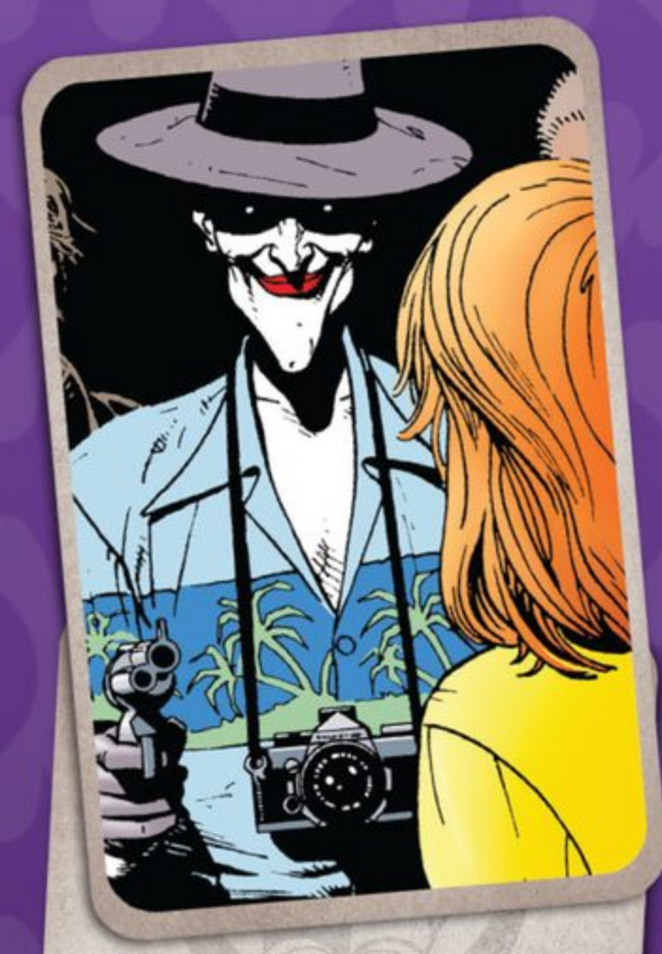
Batman Three Jokers

— PART I —

***Batman: Three Jokers*, the highly anticipated series by writer Geoff Johns and artist Jason Fabok, has been building for years—not just in Johns and Fabok's previous collaborations, but since the very beginning of Batman and The Joker's decades-long conflict. Here's a look at the events that led to the story that asks exactly who—or what—The Joker truly is.**

BATMAN #1, 1940

Right from The Joker's very first appearance, he was already poisoning his enemies with deadly Joker Venom, kidnapping Robin, and opening fire on Batman multiple times at point-blank range.



BATMAN: THE KILLING JOKE, 1988

Maybe the most infamous moment in The Joker's history: shooting Barbara Gordon—better known as Batgirl—leaving her paralyzed. *Three Jokers* will deal directly with that trauma, as originally depicted in Alan Moore and Brian Bolland's classic.

JUSTICE LEAGUE: THE DARKSEID WAR, 2015

Johns and Fabok's cosmically consequential *Justice League* arc saw Batman sit on Metron's Mobius Chair, which grants its host omniscience. The Three Jokers mystery begins as Batman asks the chair for The Joker's real name—and is shocked by the answer.

BATMAN: A DEATH IN THE FAMILY, 1988

In this controversial story, The Joker murders Jason Todd—the second Robin—in part by beating him with a crowbar (as visually referenced in the *Batman: Three Jokers* #1 cover). Jason, like Barbara, is also set to play a major role in *Batman: Three Jokers*.

DC UNIVERSE: REBIRTH, 2016

Suspense continued to build as fans learned months later what the Mobius Chair told Batman: that there are three Jokers. How could that be? What does that even mean? These are the questions at the center of *Batman: Three Jokers*.

BATMAN: THREE JOKERS #1 ON SALE IN AUGUST!

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"